

Delegate's Report to the AWSC

Ruth S., Panel 52

April 6, 2013

This year I was able to attend my first NERD from March 8 – 10 at Mansfield< Mass. I traveled with Elaine R., Immediate Past Delegate and Anne F., the Northeast Regional Trustee. This was a wonderful weekend spent with current and many past Delegate's from the Northeast region.

We shared on strengths and weaknesses in our respective Areas. I heard many Areas sharing the same challenges including getting members involved in service, getting members involved in Alateen and supporting members in service to complete job duties.

This year the Areas in the Northeast Region shared information on their Area budgets and also who their various officers and coordinators were. The hope is that by sharing this information Officers and coordinators in other Areas will be able to reach out to peers for ideas, concerns and maybe a fresh idea or two. We also took part in a great workshop on framing as part of the KBDM process.

The 2013 World Service Conference is fast approaching. The 53rd World Service Conference, Our Legacies: The Spiritual Journey of changing "Me" to "We" will be held April 15th – April 18th. I will be arriving on Saturday, April 13th. Sunday the 14th there will be Pre-Conference activities including meetings of existing Thought and Task Forces, a short General Session in the afternoon and then Committee meetings along with Thought and Task Force meetings. The sharing of area Highlights. Sunday evening will be the opening dinner The 53rd World Service Conference officially begins on Monday, April 15th.

As last year Delegate's were given a list of possible service opportunities. These included various committees, though and Task forces. We were asked to rank them in order of interest. Again this year I was assigned to my first choice. I have been assigned to the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT). This is a subcommittee of the Board's Nominating Committee and is composed of WSC Delegates. The members of the CCT independently review and evaluate resumes submitted for Trustee at Large openings. A compilation of their reviews is provided to the Nominating Committee to assist in the selection of candidates to be presented to the Board.

The committee will meet during the Conference and will also attend a meeting of the Nominating Committee during the Conference. I am very excited to be a part of this Committee this year.

During the conference there will be time for 2 Chosen Agenda Items (CAI) to be discussed. These are 1) How do we get districts, without DRs and few GRs, to become re-involved in participating in assemblies and AWSC? How do we reach out to registered groups who do not attend Area events? 2) Improving the retention of newcomers and experienced Al-Anon members. Both topics will have a 60 minute presentation and discussion.

Also during the Conference the policy Committee will present to the Conference for consideration some revision to language for the section on "Anonymity Within Al-Anon/Alateen" on pgs. 88- 91 of the "Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies". These revisions have been presented to the Board of Trustees for approval. I do have a copy of the revisions today if anyone is interested.

Sunday afternoon will be the Sharing Area Highlights. Each Delegate will have 1 minute to present 1 success and 1 challenge to their Area. This year's success for me was my challenge last year. At that time I identified NYN's discontinuing Action Groups and providing a meaningful alternative as the challenge. With two great activities last year at the assemblies I would say this has been a great success. I have identified our challenge as NYN's continuing struggle to decide what to do with our newsletter and how we chose to publish it.

In the March edition of the Northern Hi Lights there was an article about a special one year term for Northeast Regional Trustee. This was the result of the Board of trustees not appointing a Northeast Regional Trustee at the January Board of trustees meeting. There was a very quick timeline to have resumes gathered and submitted for this one year position so that a nominee could be chosen before the WSC and presented to the WSC this April. There will be a remaining 2-year appointment for the Northeast Regional Trustee. Further information will sent shortly. The deadline for submitting these resumes will be August 15, 2013. Please contact me if you are interested in submitting a resume. This should be done before the Spring Assembly so that NYN can vote on their choice for candidate.

As I did last year I have received copies of the 2012 Audit Report, the 2013 Preliminary Budget and the 2012 Annual Report. I have been reviewing all in preparation for the Conference and have submitted my questions to the WSO. As I said last year there is a lot of information to read ahead of time.

Delegates will be able to attend an open Board of Trustees meeting and an open policy meeting. We have a lot of work ahead of us this year and because of this there will be no trip to the World service Office this year as part of the Conference. I am disappointed but hopefully I will get my chance next year.

Last year a large block of time over the course of 3 days was spent in the discussion of Conference Approved Literature being made available in electronic form. The discussion included the impact on AIS/LDC, on WSO and on English, French and Spanish structures outside of the WSC. Each day provided a lively discussion. I know Pat will have more during her report as Literature Coordinator but I am very happy to report that the first piece of CAL as an eBook is now available. Having had a Spiritual Awakening can now be purchased for \$9.99. I have downloaded my copy to my tablet. This book was chosen as it is no longer being printed. Shortly the Forum will also be available electronically. I am so glad I was able to take part in the discussions at last year's Conference and now see this brought to fruition.

I have received a breakdown by District of donations made during 2012 to the World Service Office. Copies of each District's contributions have been placed in the DR's mail slot.

This time next week I will be on my way to my second World Service Conference. In many ways I am more excited than I was last year. I now know what to expect. I know many people there that I didn't know last year. I will be seeing old friends and making new ones. Because of the intimate atmosphere of NERD I have an even better relationship with other Northeast Regional Delegates. I look forward to sharing my report you all at Lake Placid in May.

Are there any questions or comments?